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H. m. 9/12/15

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 3, line 25, as follows:

--In the case of Japanese Laid-open Patent Application 2001-117425 or 2001-117468, in order to extend the service life of the photoconductive drum of each process cartridge, the amount of the charge current to flow ~~be flowed~~ in the process cartridge is switched according to the properties of the cartridge and the information stored in the storage medium of the cartridge; the amount of the charge current is switched to the minimum value necessary to keep image quality at a preferable level. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 8, as follows:

--Incidentally, there are other methods for extending the service life of a photoconductive member. For example, a photoconductive member may increased in the thickness of its surface layer, which is reduced ~~reduces~~ at a constant rate, or a harder substance may be used as the material for the surface layer, while keeping the photoconductive drum the same in the thickness of the surface layer. --

Please amend the paragraph starting at page 4, line 27, as follows:

--However, in the case of the above described conventional method in which a harder substance is used as the means for extending the service life of a photoconductive drum, a new substance must be developed from scratch, and evaluated. Therefore, this method requires a substantial length of time. In addition, if a harder substance is used as the material for the surface layer of a photoconductive drum, the surface layer of the photoconductive drum is less likely to